



The USBA Newsletter
3-Cushion Billiard News

www.USBA.net

Would you like to write an article or submit a shot? email articles to: jmshovak@usba.net or you can mail it to: Jim Shovak, USBA Secretary, 58 Hawthorne Avenue, East Islip, NY 11730

USBA Officers

President

Andrew Janquitto
 RUXTON, MD
 410-599-8177

Secretary/Treasurer

Jim Shovak
 EAST ISLIP, NY
 516-238-6193

Northeast Directors

Mazin Shooni
 2006 USA CHAMPION
 NASHUA, NH
 CELL: 248-910-4466
 WORK: 603-623-5330

Merrill Hughes

HUNTINGTON STATION, NY
 CELL: 631-338-9698
 HOME: 631-421-6814

Southeast Director

Victor Cuzzi
 MIAMI, FL
 786-366-7293

Mid-America Directors

Steve Andersen
 WYOMING, MI 49519
 616-530-8665

Juan Elizalde Sauz

DALLAS, TX
 214-908-2411

Felipe Razon

CICERO, IL
 708-878-4197

Northwest Director

Tommy Thomsen
 MILTON-FREEWATER, OREGON
 509-240-2027

Southwest Directors

Pedro Piedrabuena
 SAN DIEGO, CA
 213-458-3950

Raye Raskin

Larkspur, CA
 415-497-8732

At-Large Directors

Doug Deitel
 KATY, TX • 281-858-5948

Ricardo Carranco

LOS ANGELES, CA
 323-490-8075

Pedro Piedrabuena Wins USBA Tour Open at Paris Bida in Houston, TX.

by Doug Deitel USBA Director

From Friday October 19, 2012 to Sunday October 20, 2012 eleven players from outside Texas joined 15 local players and two from Dallas Texas to vie for the \$7,500.00 in added prize money. The event represented the first time a USBA Tour Open tournament had been held in Houston, so everyone was working hard to ensure success!

What a success it was! The players and more than 100 spectators who joined us were treated to some of the finest displays of three cushion skills they have seen in a while. And the best surprise of all was that quite a bit of the exciting play came from many of the hometown players who fought hard in this premier event. From the upsets in early rounds... to the great semi-final and final match... the 8-Gabriels tables at Paris Bida provided the perfect surface for these masters of the game to work their magic.

The final match was Live Streamed on ustream.tv in spite of the technical challenges of low Internet bandwidth and low light con-



ditions. The effort yielded a very exciting match, which was recorded and can be seen (in parts due to the up and down conditions) at <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/dogloose-ch1>.

The tournament format was also a rarity for the USBA. After a preliminary round of four flights of 7, 16 players were matched in a single elimination final, which proved to be as exciting as anyone could have hoped. With every game meaning life or death in the tournament the crowd and the players held their collective breath on almost every shot.

In the final match we were treated to the great skills and competitive spirit that have so often been demonstrated by our two great champions - Pedro and Hugo. As was expected the points were tight and the lead was always up for grabs. As the game progressed and the



billiards mounted there was no way to know who would end up on top. Hugo had the lead at 21-18 when Pedro scored an impressive shot that brought a roar from the crowd. He followed that up with another and another to lock it up at 21. Then came two more to take the lead at 23-21 before his run of 5 would end. After making but one, Hugo sat down and Pedro took over once again. And this time he would not let up. While Hugo could only sit and watch, Pedro ran 6 to get to 29 before he would miss by the smallest of margins. Could Hugo match this effort? But the bank shot to the corner would not make, and Pedro returned for what would prove to be the final billiard of the tournament. This time it was Pedro who played the bank shot to the corner to make the final score Pedro over Hugo 30-22.

The final standings for the tournament are as follows (Note: Players who exited the brackets at the same round were awarded equal position and prize money by decision of the tournament director.)

1st-Pedro Piedrabuena	\$3800
2nd-Hugo Patino (right)	\$2800
3rd-Andres Naranjo	\$1650
3rd-Kim Hoang	\$1650
5th-Mazin Shooni	\$1150
5th-Michael Kang	\$1150
7th-Joel Rivera	\$705
7th-Jamil Isreal	\$705
9th-16th all received	\$100
Sonny Cho	
Cong Nguyen	
Dung Nguyen	
Thanh Vu	
Patrick Tran	
Peter Nguyen	
Jim Shovak	
Ellis Lawrence	

Special thanks must go out to the many people who worked behind the scenes and on the front line to make the first USBA Tour Open Tournament in Houston a rousing success. First, thanks to Think and Toan Tran the owners of Paris Bida whose gracious hospitality and top-notch venue made this event one of the most enjoyable on the Tour. Thanks to the co-tournament directors Jim Shovak and Doug Deitel who did a superb job in running the event to smooth perfection. Thanks to Professor-Q-Ball (Paul Frankel) for taking pictures, video and covering the event for his online and print publication. A tip of the hat must go to Lan Vo, a fine local player who not only played in the tournament and showed some great skill, but who served as the driving force behind bringing the Open event to Houston. And finally, thanks to all the players who truly demonstrated great skill and sportsmanship throughout the competition.



President's Desk

A little over five years ago, the USBA began a concerted effort to move its three-cushion national championship tournament beyond the poolroom in order to expose the game to others, and also to provide our feature event with the prestige it rightly deserves.



After looking over the possibilities for 2013, we landed upon a beautiful solution: the Allen Hopkins Super Billiard Expo (SBX) at the New Jersey Convention and Expo Center in Edison. The timing was right—April. The venue was perfect—a private room on the main floor. The event—well, what can be said? The SBX will be in its 21st year. Allen Hopkins is a member of the BCA Hall of Fame. The SBX hosted the Champion of Champions tournament the last two years. And, of course, the SBX is the premier tradeshow on the east coast: it brings together billiard players, cue makers, table manufacturers, case makers, cloth manufacturers, ball manufacturers, retailers, wholesalers, distributors, spectators and others.

When Allen Hopkins extended the offer to us (and agreed to help financially), we didn't have to think long or hard. The SBX begins April 4, but the USBA tournament will begin on Wednesday, April 3 with registration, practice and a preliminary round. The tournament will end on Sunday, April 7. Gabriels will supply the tables. Diamond Billiard Products will supply the table lights. Go to www.superbilliardsexpo.com for more information about the SBX. See you there!

Carom Cafe B & C

FINAL RANK	NAME
1	Paul Wrangpetch
2	John Cha
3	Carlos Carillo
4	Nick Bonavita
5	Ademil Sanchez
6	Bruce Knapp
7	Eric Hughes
8	Kaya Baramogul
9	Hank Buchanan
10	Sean Yedic



FINAL RANK	NAME
1	Lloyd Wallace
2	Jong Min Lee
3	Jim Shovak
4	John Kim
5	Woo Gon Kim
6	Ki Eok Han
7	Jae Cheon Seong
8	Young Ha Choi
9	Jim Watson
10	Mark An
11	Jennifer Shim
12	Sang Bin Lee

Chris's Billiards

A "B" tournament was held at Chris's Billiards in Chicago the weekend of November 9-11 with a turnout of 36 players from around the country. It was the Ray Schuler Memorial Tournament, planned and run by Noel Mendoza, who owns the Schuler cue-making franchise. Noel was assisted by Brian Haff, George Theobald and Mike Melloy.

Camaraderie and competition ran full force as players from nine states competed for \$6,000 in prize money. First place was won by Lupe Cruz from Iowa, second by David Camarena of Chicago and third by Alex Cruz, also from Chicago. Lupe won a Schuler cue in addition to the \$1500 first prize money. A masse' cue, donated by Dennis Diekman, was given to Steve Anderson of Grand Rapids for the Sportsmanship Award



Noel Mendoza ,Lupe Cruz, Brian Haff

Upcoming USBA Tournaments

Friday, November 30, 2012 - Sunday, December 02
 USBA ENDORSED - Southside Billiards - Savannah GA
 Director: Jamie Sibley 402-617-5447

Friday, December 07-9, 2012

USBA National Qualifier - Medford Elks - Medford OR
 Contacts: Tom Thomsen: 541-938-6889; 509-240-2027

Friday, December 14-16, 2012

USBA TOUR OPEN - Hard Times Billiards - Bellflower CA
 Phone: 562-867-7733

2013

Friday, January 11-13,
 OPEN TOURNAMENT - Rushville Billiards - Rushville IL
 217 242-6200

Thursday, February 7-10,

USBA NATIONAL QUALIFIER- Pendennis Club –
 Louisville, KY

Contact: Paul Frankel

Wednesday, April 03-7, 2013 -

USBA 2013 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP
 Super Billiards Expo - New Jersey Convention Center

World Class Billiards "B" Tournament

USBA TOUR B+ EVENT held November 2-4th in Peabody, MA at World Class Billiards.
 18 players: 3 groups of 6 to 20 pts.
 Top 2 from each flight + two 3rd place finishers advance to finals.
 Double Elimination to 25 points.
 8-Finalists:
 Bob Page
 Joe DeAmato
 Tony Ferrara
 Bob Ferrara
 Ellis Lawrence
 Dave Van Lokeren
 Dave Egdahl
 Norman Zuluaga



"The Official Hotel Sponsor of the United States Billiard Association"

CHOICE HOTELS INTERNATIONAL

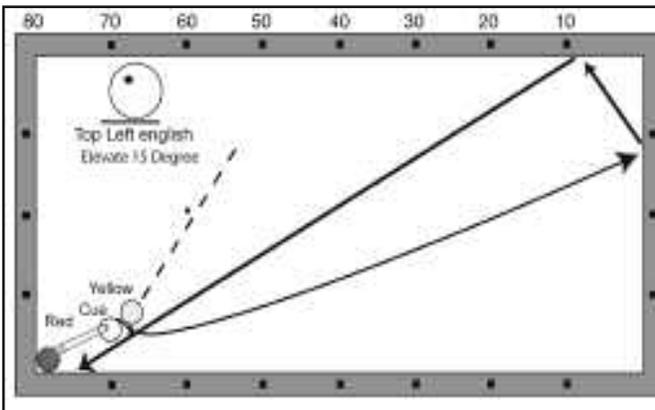
Rip's Tips

Pick a Rail Shot

This is an interesting exercise for getting to control the force follow stroke. Elevate the cue ball 15 degrees and shoot into the yellow ball with the cue ball, using top left English with a firm stroke. When you see the yellow ball fly off to the left rail and the cue ball takes a curve to the right with a little slower speed and head for the corner you'll know that you made a legal strike. See if you can make the cue ball hit the red ball straight on, and then try to hit the red on the long rail side to score. Then for a real challenge try hitting the red for a point from the short rail as the last rail. All the cue ball needs is to take a wider turn in the corner. OH YEAH!



"George Rippe is a former billiard room proprietor and artistic billiard enthusiast," He can be reached at 978 975-9958



"USBA Membership"

To become a USBA member and receive the PQB publication for free, fill out and return this form.

USBA Membership • Dues \$50

NEW MEMBER _____ RENEWAL _____

PRINT PLEASE

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, _____ STATE _____ ZIP: _____

HOME PHONE: _____

CELL PHONE: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

REFERRED BY _____

Send completed form and check or money order payable to USBA to
 Jim Shovak/USBA Secretary
 58 Hawthorne Ave. • East Islip, NY 11730.





The United States Billiard Association (USBA) will hold the 2013 Three-Cushion National Championship at the Allen Hopkins Super Billiards Expo (SBE) from April 3 to 7, 2013, at the New Jersey Convention and Expo Center in Edison.

The tournament will be played on 8 Gabriels Element tables provided by Gabriels, the official partner of the USBA. Table lighting will be provided by Diamond Billiard Products, Inc.

Tables are now on sale and offered to first come buyers at a discounted price.

Elements



The Gabriels is the most renowned table in Gabriels history. This piece of craftsmanship and superior technique exceeds the demands of billiard players all over the world.

Exclusive U.S. Distributor

Call now for more information
Paul Frankel "Professor-Q-Ball"
 901 756-2594 or Cell 901 210-7251
www.professorqball.com



Atlas
 BILLIARD SUPPLIES
*The Finest Materials and Service
 for the Billiard Industry*

MOORI Premium Tips
 Genuine MOORI Tips MADE IN JAPAN!
 IN STOCK NOW!

**EXCLUSIVELY AT
 ATLAS BILLIARDS!**

*Wide Variety
 of Quality Tips to
 Choose From!*

Flying Pig
 Premium Tips
 Ten layers of the highest grade selected sow hide. Easy to machine, holds chalk extremely well, and provides a medium-hard hit.



Samsara
 Premium Break/Jump Tips
 9 layers of leather, holds chalk well, is hard like phenolic, but the leather allows the use of english or spin. Legal in all venues.



Atlas Billiard Supplies is the exclusive North American distributor of the legendary MOORI Tips. Why play with anything less?

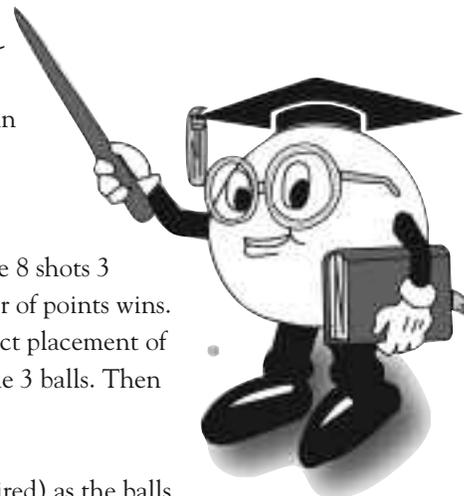
ATLAS BILLIARD SUPPLIES • 7307 N. RIDGEWAY AVE • SKOKIE, IL 60076

1-800-CUESTIK ← ORDER → WWW.CUESTIK.COM

3-Cushion Billiard Tour "Shot-Contest"

The Rack, Memphis Tennessee

The Rack in Memphis, Tn held there 4th Shot Contest with 6 pool players that signed in and willing to test their skills at the game of 3-Cushion Billiards. As the event date was set for Sunday at 1:00pm, on November 4th 2012, players had a full month to practice the shots. Entry Fee was only \$15, plus Jerry Ramey owner of The Rack also included in a free lunch for the players. Paul Frankel tournament director went over all the rules before the start of the "Shot Contest" and thanked all contestants for accepting the CHALLENGE and then went on to explain to the players the format.



A small recap of how the 3-Cushion Billiard Shot Contest works.
 FORMAT: Players will shoot only 8 diagram shots. Each player will shoot each of the 8 shots 3 times (24 shots total). Each shot is worth 2 points (48 pts max) and the total number of points wins. Three small round dots (stick-ons) are placed on the table, which represents the exact placement of the diagrammed shots. All players will have the same shot and same placement of the 3 balls. Then the dots will be removed and replaced for the next shot selection.

Special Note: After each shot a player has a straight rail carom shot (no rails required) as the balls come to rest. If they make it, it will be worth 1 point added to their previous scores. This means that the maximum possible score will be 72 points if they made every shot.

The quickest way to get new players to play the game of 3-Cushion is to reach out to pool players



3-CUSHION CHALLENGE SHOT CONTEST

For Pool Players November 2, 2012

Shots are worth 2 points, straight rail shots are worth 1 point



	NAME	SHOT-1	SHOT-2	SHOT-3	SHOT-4	Add Score	SHOT-5	SHOT-6	SHOT-7	SHOT-8	FINAL SCORE	
		Top row is a total of 3-Cushion shots made Bottom row is a total of straight rail shots made										
		Yellow box is combined total				Half way						
1	Don Cho	2/0 2	6/1 7	4/1 5	4/3 7	21	6/3 9	0/1 1	2/2 4	6/1 7	42	2nd
2	Josh Gilmore	0/0 0	2/1 3	6/1 7	2/2 4	14	2/0 2	0/1 1	0/2 2	6/2 8	27	
3	Bob Hunt	4/2 6	4/1 5	4/1 5	0/1 1	17	4/1 5	2/2 4	0/1 1	4/3 7	34	3rd
4	Jerry Ramey	4/2 6	4/2 6	4/2 6	6/2 8	26	2/0 2	4/1 5	2/1 3	6/2 8	44	1st
5	Jason Evans	2/1 3	2/0 2	2/0 2	2/2 4	11	4/0 4	6/2 8	4/2 6	2/3 5	34	3rd
6	Paul Dodge	2/2 4	0/1 1	4/3 7	0/3 3	15	4/1 5	4/1 5	0/1 1	0/3 3	24	



Tournament Director
Paul "Professor-Q-Ball" Frankel



Medford Elks Lodge

The 50th Annual Southern Oregon Invitational 3 Cushion Billiard Tournament was just completed at the historic Medford Elks Lodge. Sixty players participated in the team event, and nearly fifty of those players also took part in the three Singles tournaments that took place simultaneously. More than 100 people attended the awards banquet, including the family of Doc Miller, who had started the tournament back in 1963, and Bruce Braaten, who had played in the very first tournament and also played as a sub in the 50th. Tournament attendees were also treated to amusing billiard tales told by Bob Byrne (who won the Senior Singles tournament), and to an Artistic Pool Exhibition donated to us by Dr. Cue, Tom Rossman, who also made an impressive showing at his first time in the team tournament.

Being the 50th tournament was not the only milestone for this event. In addition, it was the first time it was played on modern Gabriels heated tables, thanks to an enormously generous donation from Bob Tracy and donations of money and effort from 37 other players. Also for the first time, we produced a Commemorative Program for all the players including a history of the event, lists of tournament



“A” and “B” Singles Tournament Finalists. L to R: Mark Hansen, A Singles Winner, Galen Lee, B Singles Runner up, Hans Handgraaf, A Singles Runner-up, Alfred Wenzl, B Singles Winner.

winners, and loads of photos. A limited number of copies are available for sale by contacting Mark Williams, tournament co-chairman, for an order form at mark.b.williams@charter.net.



Winning Team Photo Caption:

Winners of the Team Event. Back Row L to R: Tom Resk, Gary Felder, John Fleming, Jim Spannaus, Bob Tracy, Ron Hopkins; Front Row L to R: Bob Horecky, James Wong, George Theobald, Team Captain Max Fisher, Don Dayan, Hans Handgraaf, Harvey Wixman, Jimmy Martinez. Not pictured: John Winn.